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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

E.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/684,986	LAKE, JOHN M.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Oanh Duong	2155

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>03</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>14 October 2003</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-30</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-30</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>14 October 2003</u> is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/14/2003</u>.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-30 are presented for examination.

Information Disclosure Statement

2.   The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on October 14, 2003. The

submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the

information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3.   The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
> claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4.   Claims 2, 4, 7, 10, 12, 18, 20, 25, 26, and 28-30 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and

distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 2 recites the limitation "the temporary contacts" in line 5. There is

insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 4 recites the limitation "the query" in lines 2-3, and 5. There is insufficient

antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claim 4 depends on claim 1, and no

query is defined in claim 1.

Claim 7 recites the limitation "the date" in line 4. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 10 recites the limitation "the temporary contacts" in lines 5-6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 12 recites the limitation "the query" in lines 3 and 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claim 4 depends on claim 9, and no query is defined in claim 9.

Claim 18 recites the limitation "the temporary contacts" in lines 5-6. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 20 recites the limitation "the query" in lines 3 and 5. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Claim 20 depends on claim 17, and no query is defined in claim 17.

Claim 25 recites the limitation "the temporary contacts" in line 11. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 26 recites the limitations "the date" in line 10, and "the participant information" in lines 16-17. There are insufficient antecedent basis for those limitations in the claim.

Claim 28 recites the limitation "the date" in line 15. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 29 recites the limitation "the temporary contacts" in lines 12-13. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim 30 recites the limitations "the date" in line 12, and "the participant

information" in lines 18-19. There are insufficient antecedent basis for those limitations

in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6.   Claims 1, 9, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Knauerhase et al. (hereinafter, Knauerhase), U.S. Pub. No. **2004/0203746** A1.

Regarding claim 1, **Knauerhase** teaches a computer-implemented method of

managing instant messenger lists (i.e., *adding/removing contacts from buddy list,* page

2 paragraphs [0026]-[0028]), said method comprising:

receiving, from one or more computerized sources (i.e., server 115, Fig. 1),

contact data corresponding to a plurality of contacts (i.e., *mobile client device 415*

receives contact information, Fig. 1, page 3 paragraphs [0033]-[0037]);

adding the received contact data to a buddy list associated with a user's instant

messaging computer application (i.e., *adding the partner/contacts to the buddy list of*

the client, page 2 paragraph [0026]);

selecting one of the contacts added to the user's buddy list (i.e., *the user may*

choose/select which persons/contacts on the buddy list the user wishes to be informed

about, page 3 paragraph [0038] and page 4 paragraph [0040]); and

establishing an instant messaging session with the selected contact (*Knauerhase*

discloses if the mobile device has a buddy list associated with it, the user may choose

which persons on the buddy list the user wishes to be informed about, and

communicate with those persons, page 3 paragraph [0038] and page 4 paragraph

[0040]. In order to communicate with the selected person/contact on the buddy list, an

instant messaging session with the selected person/contact must be established).

Regarding claim 9, **Knauerhase** teaches information handling system (i.e.,

mobile client device 700, Fig. 7) comprising:

one or more processors (*i.e., processor 710, Fig. 7*);

a memory (*i.e., RAM or a main memory 715, Fig. 7*) accessible by the processors

(*i.e., RAM or a main memory 715 for storing information and instructions to be executed*

by processor 710, page 4 paragraph [0043]);

a network interface (*i.e., communication device 750, Fig. 7*) connecting the

information handling system to a computer network (*i.e., the mobile device 700 may be*

linked to a network using communication device 750, page 4 paragraph [0045]);

a software tool for managing instant messenger lists, the software tool including

software *(i.e., instructions, page 4 paragraph [0044])* effective to:

receiving, from one or more computerized sources *(i.e., server 115, Fig. 1)*,

contact data corresponding to a plurality of contacts *(i.e., mobile client device 415*

receives contact information, Fig. 1, page 3 paragraphs [0033]-[0037]);

adding the received contact data to a buddy list associated with a user's instant

messaging computer application (i.e., *adding the partner/contacts to the buddy list of*

the client, page 2 paragraph [0026]);

selecting one of the contacts added to the user's buddy list *(i.e., the user may*

choose/select which persons/contacts on the buddy list the user wishes to be informed

about, page 3 paragraph [0038] and page 4 paragraph [0040]); and

establishing an instant messaging session with the selected contact (*Knauerhase*

discloses if the mobile device has a buddy list associated with it, the user may choose

which persons on the buddy list the user wishes to be informed about, and

communicate with those persons, page 3 paragraph [0038] and page 4 paragraph

[0040]. In order to communicate with the selected person/contact on the buddy list, an

instant messaging session with the selected person/contact must be established).

Regarding claim 17, this claim is a computer program product stored on a

computer operable media for managing instant messenger lists, said computer program

product comprising software effective to perform the method of claim 1, discussed

above, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

8.   Claims 2, 4, 10, 12, 18, 20, 25, 27, and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

as being unpatentable over **Knauerhase** et al. (hereinafter, Knauerhase), U.S. Pub. No.

2004/0203746 A1, in view of **Malik**, U.S. Pub. No. **2003/0220976** A1.

Regarding claim 2, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 1.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach indicating that one or more of the contacts

added to the user's buddy list is a temporary contact; storing an expiration date

corresponding to each of the temporary contacts; periodically comparing a current date

to the expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts; and removing the contact data

corresponding to the temporary contacts in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches indicating that one or more of the contacts added to the user's

buddy list is a temporary contact (i.e., *request to add a temporary contact to the client*

resource list, page 5 paragraph [0046]); storing an expiration date corresponding to

each of the temporary contacts (i.e., *the user can enter the expiration/time 335 for the*

temporary resource list. After entering the temporary contact unique identification and

expiration, the universal server 130 will add the temporary contact 300 to the database

system 250', Fig. 5 paragraph [0046]); periodically comparing a current date to the

expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts (i.e., at regular intervals, check the

expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 10 to ensure that no temporary

contacts 300, 320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph

[0045]); and removing the contact data corresponding to the temporary contacts in

response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary*

contact is removed from the resource list, page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to designate the contact as

a temporary contact by storing expiration date corresponding to each of contacts, and to

remove the contact after expiration date as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to

do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list

without requiring the user to actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4

paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 4, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 1.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach receiving an expiration date corresponding

to the query; storing the expiration date with the contact data received as a result of the

query; periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date; and removing the

contact data in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches receiving an expiration date corresponding to a query (i.e., prompt the client for expiration data for temporary contact to be stored in the resource list. when expiration date is received, the temporary contact is recorded into the database system along with expiration date, Fig. 4 page 5 paragraph [0045]);

storing the expiration date with the contact data received as a result of the query (i.e., the temporary contact is recorded/stored into the database system 250' along with expiration date 335, Fig. 4 page 5 paragraph [0045]);

periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date (i.e., *check for expiration at a regular intervals*, page 5 paragraph [0045]); and

removing the contact data in response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary contact is removed from the resource list*, page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to combine the teachings of **Knauerhase** to include the steps of receiving an expiration date corresponding to the query, storing the expiration date with the contact data received as a result of the query, periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date, and removing the contact data in response to the comparison as taught by **Malik**. One would be motivated to do so to enable the contact(s) to be automatically deleted after the expiration date, thereby allowing the client to control how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list without requiring the user to actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 10, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 9.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach indicating that one or more of the contacts added to the user's buddy list is a temporary contact; storing an expiration date corresponding to each of the temporary contacts; periodically comparing a current date to the expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts; and removing the contact data corresponding to the temporary contacts in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches indicating that one or more of the contacts added to the user's buddy list is a temporary contact (i.e., *request to add a temporary contact to the client resource list*, page 5 paragraph [0046]); storing an expiration date corresponding to each of the temporary contacts (i.e., *the user can enter the expiration/time 335 for the temporary resource list. After entering the temporary contact unique identification and expiration, the universal server 130 will add the temporary contact 300 to the database system 250'*, Fig. 5 paragraph [0046]); periodically comparing a current date to the expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts (i.e., *at regular intervals, check the expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 10 to ensure that no temporary contacts 300, 320 have expired*, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph [0045]); and removing the contact data corresponding to the temporary contacts in response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary contact is removed from the resource list*, page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to designate the contact as a temporary contact by storing expiration date corresponding to each of contacts, and to

remove the contact after expiration date as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list without requiring the user to actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 12, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 9.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach receiving an expiration date corresponding to the query; storing the expiration date with the contact data received as a result of the query; periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date; and removing the contact data in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches receiving an expiration date corresponding to a query (i.e., prompt the client for expiration data for temporary contact to be stored in the resource list. when expiration date is received, the temporary contact is recorded into the database system along with expiration date, Fig. 4 page 5 paragraph [0045]);

storing the expiration date with the contact data received as a result of the query (i.e., the temporary contact is recorded/stored into the database system 250' along with expiration date 335, Fig. 4 page 5 paragraph [0045]);

periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date (i.e., *check for expiration at a regular intervals*, page 5 paragraph [0045]); and

removing the contact data in response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary contact is removed from the resource list*, page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to combine the teachings of **Knauerhase** to include the steps of

receiving an expiration date corresponding to the query, storing the expiration date with

the contact data received as a result of the query, periodically comparing a current date

to the expiration date, and removing the contact data in response to the comparison as

taught by **Malik**. One would be motivated to do so to enable the contact(s) to be

automatically deleted after the expiration date, thereby allowing the client to control how

long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list without requiring the user to actively

monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 18, this claim comprises the computer program corresponding

to the method claim 2, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 20, this claim comprises the computer program product

corresponding to the method claim 4, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 25, **Knauerhase** teaches a computer-implemented method of

managing instant messenger lists (i.e., *adding/removing contacts from buddy list,* page

2 paragraphs [0026]-[0028]), said method comprising:

receiving, from one or more computerized sources (i.e., server 115, Fig. 1),

contact data corresponding to a plurality of contacts (i.e., *mobile client device 415*

receives contact information, Fig. 1, page 3 paragraphs [0033]-[0037]);

adding the received contact data to a buddy list associated with a user's instant

messaging computer application (i.e., *adding the partner/contacts to the buddy list of*

the client, page 2 paragraph [0026]);

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach indicating that one or more of the contacts

added to the user's buddy list is a temporary contact; storing an expiration date

corresponding to each of the temporary contacts; periodically comparing a current date

to the expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts; and removing the contact data

corresponding to the temporary contacts in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches a system wherein temporary contact aliases are provided (see

abstract). **Malik** teaches indicating that one or more of the contacts added to the user's

buddy list is a temporary contact (i.e., *request to add a temporary contact to the client*

resource list, page 5 paragraph [0046]); storing an expiration date corresponding to

each of the temporary contacts (i.e., *the user can enter the expiration/time 335 for the*

temporary resource list. After entering the temporary contact unique identification and

expiration, the universal server 130 will add the temporary contact 300 to the database

system 250', Fig. 5 paragraph [0046]); periodically comparing a current date to the

expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts *(i.e., at regular intervals, check the*

expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 10 to ensure that no temporary

contacts 300, 320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph

[0045]); and removing the contact data corresponding to the temporary contacts in

response to the comparison *(i.e., if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary*

contact is removed from the resource list, page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to designate the contact as

a temporary contact by storing expiration date corresponding to each of contacts, and to

remove the contact after expiration date as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to

do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list

without requiring the user to actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4

paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 27, **Knauerhase** teaches information handling system (i.e.,

mobile client device 700, Fig. 7) comprising:

one or more processors (*i.e., processor 710, Fig. 7*);

a memory *(i.e., RAM or a main memory 715, Fig. 7)* accessible by the processors

(i.e., RAM or a main memory 715 for storing information and instructions to be executed

by processor 710, page 4 paragraph [0043]);

a network interface *(i.e., communication device 750, Fig. 7)* connecting the

information handling system to a computer network *(i.e., the mobile device 700 may be*

linked to a network using communication device 750, page 4 paragraph [0045]);

a software tool for managing instant messenger lists, the software tool including

software *(i.e., instructions, page 4 paragraph [0044])* effective to:

receiving, from one or more computerized sources (i.e., server 115, Fig. 1),

contact data corresponding to a plurality of contacts (i.e., *mobile client device 415*

receives contact information, Fig. 1, page 3 paragraphs [0033]-[0037]);

adding the received contact data to a buddy list associated with a user's instant

messaging computer application (i.e., *adding the partner/contacts to the buddy list of*

the client, page 2 paragraph [0026]);

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach indicating that one or more of the contacts

added to the user's buddy list is a temporary contact; storing an expiration date

corresponding to each of the temporary contacts; periodically comparing a current date

to the expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts; and removing the contact data

corresponding to the temporary contacts in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches a system wherein temporary contact aliases are provided (see

abstract). **Malik** teaches indicating that one or more of the contacts added to the user's

buddy list is a temporary contact (i.e., *request to add a temporary contact to the client*

resource list, page 5 paragraph [0046]); storing an expiration date corresponding to

each of the temporary contacts (i.e., *the user can enter the expiration/time 335 for the*

temporary resource list. After entering the temporary contact unique identification and

expiration, the universal server 130 will add the temporary contact 300 to the database

system 250', Fig. 5 paragraph [0046]); periodically comparing a current date to the

expiration dates stored for the temporary contacts *(i.e., at regular intervals, check the*

expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 10 to ensure that no temporary

contacts 300, 320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph

[0045]); and removing the contact data corresponding to the temporary contacts in

response to the comparison *(i.e., if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary*

contact is removed from the resource list, page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to designate the contact as a temporary contact by storing expiration date corresponding to each of contacts, and to remove the contact after expiration date as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list without requiring the user to actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 29, this claim comprises a computer program product stored on a computer operable media for performing a corresponding method claim 25, discussed above, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

9.   Claims 3, 5, 6, 11, 13, 14, 19, 21, and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Knauerhase** et al. (hereinafter, Knauerhase), U.S. Pub. No. **2004/0203746** A1, in view of **Keskar** et al. (hereinafter, Keskar), U.S. Patent No. **6,785,681** B1.

Regarding claim 3, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 1.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach prior to the reception of the contact data: constructing a query of contact information requested by the user; and performing the query at a database, wherein the database stores the contact information that includes the contact data corresponding to the contacts; and wherein the contact data received is a result of the performed query.

Keskar teaches technique for generating a list of people relevant to a task (see

abstract). **Keskar** teaches teach prior to the reception of the contact data: constructing

a query of contact information requested by the user (i.e., create a query for

persons/contacts who may be interested in the content, col. 1 lines 40-50); and

performing the query at a database (i.e., query is directed to the tracking database 22,

col. 1 lines 51-59), wherein the database stores the contact information that includes the

contact data corresponding to the contacts (i.e., the tracking database includes user

table 60, Fig. 3); and wherein the contact data received is a result of the performed

query (i.e., the results of the search can include a list of people/contacts presented to

the user, col. 1 lines 57-60).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to query database for the

contact information prior to the reception of the contact information as taught by

Keskar. One would be motivated to do so to improve the task efficiency by

automatically providing/adding a list of people/contacts to a buddy list (**Keskar**, col. 5

lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 5, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 1.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach prior to the reception of the contact data:

selecting one or more calendar entries from an electronic calendar corresponding to the

user; and retrieving, from the selected calendar entries, calendar data that includes

participant information for participants of the selected calendar entries; and wherein the

contact data received includes the participant information.

Keskar teaches prior to the reception of the contact data: selecting one or more

calendar entries from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user (i.e., a criteria

can be applied to the list of people before the list is presented to the client. The criteria,

currently scheduled meetings for the sender, can help refine/select the name of persons

in the list, col. 5 lines 30-55); and retrieving, from the selected calendar entries,

calendar data that includes participant information for participants of the selected

calendar entries (i.e., provide a list of people that are relevant to the task, col. 5 lines

45-55); and wherein the contact data received includes the participant information (i.e.,

meeting attendees can be added to the list of people as the meeting agenda. In instant

messaging scenario, the list of people can be added to a buddy list, col. 5 lines 45-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to combine the teachings of **Knauerhase** to include the step of

retrieving calendar data as taught by **Keskar**. One would be motivated to do so to would

be motivated to do so to improve the task efficiency by automatically providing/adding a

list of people/contacts to a buddy list without searching through a large address book

(**Keskar**, col. 5 lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 6, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 1.

Knauerhase does not teach creating a buddy group within the user's buddy list,

wherein the created buddy group corresponds to a selected calendar entry from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user; prior to the reception of the contact data: selecting the calendar entry from the user's electronic calendar; and retrieving, from the selected calendar entry, calendar data that includes participant information for participants of the selected calendar entry; and subsequent to the reception of the contact data: storing the received contact data in the buddy group, wherein the contact data received includes the participant information.

Keskar teaches creating a buddy group within the user's buddy list (i.e., *a list of people can be added to a buddy list*, col. 5 lines 45-55), wherein the created buddy group corresponds to a selected calendar entry from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user (i.e., *meeting attendees can be added to a list of people. If the meeting is to be held online, then participants are invited into an instant messaging chat room*, col. 5 lines 45-63); prior to the reception of the contact data: selecting the calendar entry from the user's electronic calendar (i.e., *a criteria can be applied to the list of people before the list is presented to the client. The criteria, currently scheduled meetings for the sender, can help refine/select the name of persons in the list*, col. 5 lines 30-55); and retrieving, from the selected calendar entry, calendar data that includes participant information for participants of the selected calendar entry (i.e., *provide a list of people that are relevant to the task*, col. 5 lines 45-55); and subsequent to the reception of the contact data: storing the received contact data in the buddy group, wherein the contact data received includes the participant information (i.e.,

meeting attendees can be added to the list of people as the meeting agenda. In instant

messaging scenario, the list of people can be added to a buddy list, col. 5 lines 45-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to create a buddy group

within the user's buddy list as taught by **Keskar**. One would be motivated to do so to

would be motivated to do so to improve the task efficiency by automatically

providing/adding a list of people/contacts of a current scheduled meeting for the user to

the user's buddy list without searching through a large address book (**Keskar**, col. 5

lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 11, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 9.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach prior to the reception of the contact data:

constructing a query of contact information requested by the user; and performing the

query at a database, wherein the database stores the contact information that includes

the contact data corresponding to the contacts; and wherein the contact data received is

a result of the performed query.

Keskar teaches technique for generating a list of people relevant to a task (see

abstract). **Keskar** teaches teach prior to the reception of the contact data: constructing

a query of contact information requested by the user *(i.e., create a query for*

persons/contacts who may be interested in the content, col. 1 lines 40-50); and

performing the query at a database *(i.e., query is directed to the tracking database 22,*

col. 1 lines 51-59), wherein the database stores the contact information that includes the

contact data corresponding to the contacts *(i.e., the tracking database includes user table 60, Fig. 3)*; and wherein the contact data received is a result of the performed query *(i.e., the results of the search can include a list of people/contacts presented to the user, col. 1 lines 57-60).*

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to query database for the contact information prior to the reception of the contact information as taught by **Keskar**. One would be motivated to do so to improve the task efficiency by automatically providing/adding a list of people/contacts to a buddy list (**Keskar**, col. 5 lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 13, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 9.

Knauerhase does not explicitly teach prior to the reception of the contact data: selecting one or more calendar entries from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user; and retrieving, from the selected calendar entries, calendar data that includes participant information for participants of the selected calendar entries; and wherein the contact data received includes the participant information.

Keskar teaches prior to the reception of the contact data: selecting one or more calendar entries from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user (i.e., a criteria can be applied to the list of people before the list is presented to the client. The criteria, currently scheduled meetings for the sender, can help refine/select the name of persons in the list, col. 5 lines 30-55); and retrieving, from the selected calendar entries,

calendar data that includes participant information for participants of the selected

calendar entries (i.e., provide a list of people that are relevant to the task, col. 5 lines

45-55); and wherein the contact data received includes the participant information (i.e.,

meeting attendees can be added to the list of people as the meeting agenda. In instant

messaging scenario, the list of people can be added to a buddy list, col. 5 lines 45-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to combine the teachings of **Knauerhase** to include the step of

retrieving calendar data as taught by **Keskar**. One would be motivated to do so to would

be motivated to do so to improve the task efficiency by automatically providing/adding a

list of people/contacts to a buddy list without searching through a large address book

(**Keskar**, col. 5 lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 14, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 9.

Knauerhase does not teach creating a buddy group within the user's buddy list,

wherein the created buddy group corresponds to a selected calendar entry from

an electronic calendar corresponding to the user; prior to the reception of the contact

data: selecting the calendar entry from the user's electronic calendar; and retrieving,

from the selected calendar entry, calendar data that includes participant information for

participants of the selected calendar entry; and subsequent to the reception of the

contact data: storing the received contact data in the buddy group, wherein the contact

data received includes the participant information.

Keskar teaches creating a buddy group within the user's buddy list (i.e., *a list of people can be added to a buddy list*, col. 5 lines 45-55), wherein the created buddy group corresponds to a selected calendar entry from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user (i.e., *meeting attendees can be added to a list of people. If the meeting is to be held online, then participants are invited into an instant messaging chat room*, col. 5 lines 45-63); prior to the reception of the contact data: selecting the calendar entry from the user's electronic calendar (i.e., *a criteria can be applied to the list of people before the list is presented to the client. The criteria, currently scheduled meetings for the sender, can help refine/select the name of persons in the list*, col. 5 lines 30-55); and retrieving, from the selected calendar entry, calendar data that includes participant information for participants of the selected calendar entry (i.e., *provide a list of people that are relevant to the task*, col. 5 lines 45-55); and subsequent to the reception of the contact data: storing the received contact data in the buddy group, wherein the contact data received includes the participant information (i.e., *meeting attendees can be added to the list of people as the meeting agenda. In instant messaging scenario, the list of people can be added to a buddy list*, col. 5 lines 45-63).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of **Knauerhase** to create a buddy group within the user's buddy list as taught by **Keskar**. One would be motivated to do so to would be motivated to do so to improve the task efficiency by automatically providing/adding a list of people/contacts of a current scheduled meeting for the user to

the user's buddy list without searching through a large address book (**Keskar**, col. 5 lines 45-55).

Regarding claim 19, this claim comprises the computer program product corresponding to the method claim 3, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 21, this claim comprises the computer program product corresponding to the method claim 5, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Regarding claim 22, this claim comprises the computer program product corresponding to the method claim 6, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

10.   Claims 7, 15 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Knauerhase** et al. (hereinafter, Knauerhase), U.S. Pub. No. **2004/0203746** A1, in view of **Keskar** et al. (hereinafter, Keskar), U.S. Patent No. **6,785,681** B1, and further in view of **Malik**, U.S. Pub. No. **2003/0220976** A1.

Regarding claim 7, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 6.

the combination of teachings of **Knauerhase and Keskar** does not explicitly teach storing an expiration date corresponding to the created buddy group, wherein the expiration date is derived from the date of the selected calendar entry; periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date stored for the buddy group; and

removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches storing an expiration date (*expiration period 335, 340, Fig. 3*) corresponding to the created buddy group (*i.e., when expiration date 335 is received, the temporary contact 300 is recorded into database along with expiration 335, page 5 paragraph [0045]*), wherein the expiration date is derived from the date of a calendar entry (i.e., *Malik discloses a default expiration period 335 for the temporary contact 300 can be set if the user does not specify an expiration 335, page 5 paragraph [0045]. Since an expiration 335 is set by default, a calendar entry must be applied in order to determine/derive the expiration date for the temporary contact, and the contact will be automatically removed from the user's buddy list after an the expiration date*); periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date stored for the buddy group (*i.e., at regular intervals, check the expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 310 to ensure that no temporary contacts 300, 320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph [0045]*); and removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary contact is removed from the resource list*, page 4 paragraph [0042] and page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the combination of the teachings of **Knauerhase and Keskar** to designate the contact as a temporary contact by storing expiration date corresponding to the created buddy group, and to remove the contact after expiration

date as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to do so to allow the client to control

how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list without requiring the client to

actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 15, **Knauerhase** teaches the method as described in claim 14.

the combination of teachings of **Knauerhase and Keskar** does not explicitly

teach storing an expiration date corresponding to the created buddy group, wherein the

expiration date is derived from the date of the selected calendar entry; periodically

comparing a current date to the expiration date stored for the buddy group; and

removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in

response to the comparison.

Malik teaches storing an expiration date (*expiration period 335, 340, Fig. 3*)

corresponding to the created buddy group (*i.e., when expiration date 335 is received,*

the temporary contact 300 is recorded into database along with expiration 335, page 5

paragraph [0045]), wherein the expiration date is derived from the date of a calendar

entry (i.e., *Malik discloses a default expiration period 335 for the temporary contact 300*

can be set if the user does not specify an expiration 335, page 5 paragraph [0045].

Since an expiration 335 is set by default, a calendar entry must be applied in order to

determine/derive the expiration date for the temporary contact, and the contact will be

automatically removed from the user's buddy list after an the expiration date);

periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date stored for the buddy group

(*i.e., at regular intervals, check the expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group*

310 to ensure that no temporary contacts 300, 320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph [0045]); and removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary contact is removed from the resource list*, page 4 paragraph [0042] and page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the combination of the teachings of **Knauerhase and Keskar** to designate the contact as a temporary contact by storing expiration date corresponding to the created buddy group, and to remove the contact after expiration date as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in the client's buddy list without requiring the client to actively monitor and remove old contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 23, this claim comprises the computer program corresponding to the method claim 7, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

11.   Claims 8, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Knauerhase** et al. (hereinafter, Knauerhase), U.S. Pub. No. **2004/0203746** A1, in view of **Roskind**, U.S. Pub. No. **2003/0065721** A1.

Regarding claim 8, **Knauerhase** teaches method as described in claim 1 further comprising adding the received contact data to a buddy group included with the buddy list (i.e., adding the partners to the buddy list of the client, page 2 paragraph [0026]).

Knauerhase does not teach the buddy group to which the contact data is added is determined by a predefined policy.

Roskind teaches a buddy group may be configured without action from the instant messaging identity (see abstract). **Roskind** teaches the buddy group to which the contact data is added is determined by a predefined policy (i.e. contacts groups 812 is created, and screen names are added to the contact groups based on predetermined policy such as IM sessions are opened, page 10 paragraphs [0106-0110]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the buddy group to which the contact data is added is determined by a predefined policy as taught by **Roskind** in the process of adding contacts into the buddy group/list in **Knauerhase**. One would be motivated to do so to allow a buddy group to be automatically created and populated without user action (**Roskind**, page 10 paragraph [0110]).

Regarding claim 16, **Knauerhase** teaches method as described in claim 9 further comprising adding the received contact data to a buddy group included with the buddy list *(i.e., adding the partners to the buddy list of the client, page 2 paragraph [0026])*.

Knauerhase does not teach the buddy group to which the contact data is added is determined by a predefined policy.

Roskind teaches a buddy group may be configured without action from the instant messaging identity (see abstract). **Roskind** teaches the buddy group to which the contact data is added is determined by a predefined policy *(i.e. contacts groups 812 is created, and screen names are added to the contact groups based on predetermined policy such as IM sessions are opened, page 10 paragraphs [0106-0110])*.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to incorporate the buddy group to which the contact data is added is determined by a predefined policy as taught by **Roskind** in the process of adding contacts into the buddy group/list in **Knauerhase**. One would be motivated to do so to allow a buddy group to be automatically created and populated without user action *(***Roskind***, page 10 paragraph [0110])*.

Regarding claim 18, this claim comprises the computer program corresponding to the method claim 8, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

12.   Claims 26, 28, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over **Keskar** et al. (hereinafter, Keskar), U.S. Patent No. **6,785,681** B1, in view of **Malik**, U.S. Pub. No. **2003/0220976** A1.

Regarding claim 26, **Keskar** teaches a computer-implemented method of managing instant messenger lists (i.e., adding a list of people to a buddy list in an instant messaging scenario, col. 5 lines 45-55), said method comprising:

creating a buddy group within the user's buddy list (i.e., generating/creating a list/group of people/buddies who are added to a buddy list, col. 5 lines 31-55), wherein the created buddy group (i.e., group of meeting attendees) corresponds to a selected calendar entry (i.e., meeting) from an electronic calendar corresponding to the user (i.e., *meeting attendees can be added to a list of people. If the meeting is to be held online, then participants are invited into an instant messaging chat room*, col. 5 lines 45-63);

retrieving, from the selected calendar entry, calendar data (i.e., meeting attendees or list of people) that includes participant information for participants of the selected calendar entry (i.e., provide a list of people that are relevant to the task, col. 5 lines 45-55);

storing the received contact data in the buddy group, wherein the contact data received includes the participant information (In instant messaging scenario, the list of people/participants can be added/stored to/in a buddy list, col. 5 lines 30-63).

Keskar does not explicitly teach identifying an expiration date of the buddy group, the expiration date derived from the date of the selected calendar entry; periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date corresponding to the buddy group; and removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches a system wherein temporary contact aliases are provided (see abstract). **Malik** teaches identifying an expiration date of the buddy group, the expiration date is derived from the date of a calendar entry (i.e., *Malik discloses a default expiration period 335 for the temporary contact 300 can be set/identified if the user does not specify an expiration 335, page 5 paragraph [0045]. Since an expiration 335 is set by default, a calendar entry must be applied in order to /derive the expiration date for the temporary contact, and the contact will be automatically removed from the user's buddy list after an the expiration date)*; periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date stored for the buddy group *(i.e., at regular intervals, check the expiration periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 310 to ensure that no temporary contacts 300, 320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph [0045])*; and removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary contact is removed from the resource list*, page 4 paragraph [0042] and page 5 paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the teachings of **Keskar** to include the step of identifying an expiration date of the buddy group, the expiration date derived from the date of the selected calendar entry, periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date corresponding to the buddy group, and removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison as taught by **Malik.** One would be motivated to do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in

the client's buddy list without requiring the client to actively monitor and remove old

contacts (**Malik**, page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 28, **Keskar** teaches information handling system (i.e., client

12a, Fig. 2) comprising

one or more processor (i.e., CPU 20, Fig. 2);

a memory accessible by the processors (i.e., memory 24, Fig. 2 col. 1 line 60-col.

2 line 7);

a network interface (i.e., interface 38, Fig. 2) connecting the information handling

system to a computer network (i.e., interface 38 couples the network 16 to client 12a,

col. 2 lines 10-11);

a software tool for managing instant messenger lists, the software tool including

software (i.e., programs 37, Fig. 2 col. 1 line 61-col. 2 line7), the software tool including

software to;

creating a buddy group within the user's buddy list (i.e.,

generating/creating a list/group of people/buddies who are added to a buddy list,

col. 5 lines 31-55), wherein the created buddy group (i.e., group of meeting

attendees) corresponds to a selected calendar entry (i.e., meeting) from an

electronic calendar corresponding to the user (i.e., *meeting attendees can be*

added to a list of people. If the meeting is to be held online, then participants are

invited into an instant messaging chat room, col. 5 lines 45-63);

retrieving, from the selected calendar entry, calendar data (i.e., meeting

attendees or list of people) that includes participant information for participants of

the selected calendar entry (i.e., provide a list of people that are relevant to the

task, col. 5 lines 45-55);

storing the received contact data in the buddy group, wherein the contact

data received includes the participant information (In instant messaging scenario,

the list of people/participants can be added/stored to/in a buddy list, col. 5 lines

30-63).

Keskar does not explicitly teach identifying an expiration date of the buddy

group, the expiration date derived from the date of the selected calendar entry;

periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date corresponding to the buddy

group; and removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy

group, in response to the comparison.

Malik teaches a system wherein temporary contact aliases are provided (see

abstract). Malik teaches identifying an expiration date of the buddy group, the expiration

date is derived from the date of a calendar entry (i.e., *Malik discloses a default*

expiration period 335 for the temporary contact 300 can be set/identified if the user does

not specify an expiration 335, page 5 paragraph [0045]. Since an expiration 335 is set

by default, a calendar entry must be applied in order to /derive the expiration date for .

the temporary contact, and the contact will be automatically removed from the user's

buddy list after an the expiration date); periodically comparing a current date to the

expiration date stored for the buddy group *(i.e., at regular intervals, check the expiration*

periods 335, 340 of the temporary group 310 to ensure that no temporary contacts 300,

320 have expired, page 4 paragraph [0042], and page 5 paragraph [0045]); and

removing the buddy group, including the contact data added to the buddy group, in

response to the comparison (i.e., *if the temporary contact is expired, the temporary*

contact is removed from the resource list, page 4 paragraph [0042] and page 5

paragraph [0045]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention was made to modify the teachings of **Keskar** to include the step of identifying

an expiration date of the buddy group, the expiration date derived from the date of the

selected calendar entry, periodically comparing a current date to the expiration date

corresponding to the buddy group, and removing the buddy group, including the contact

data added to the buddy group, in response to the comparison as taught by **Malik.** One

would be motivated to do so to allow the client to control how long a contact is stored in

the client's buddy list without requiring the client to actively monitor and remove old

contacts (**Malik,** page 4 paragraph [0039] lines 14-17).

Regarding claim 30, this claim comprises a computer program product stored on

a computer operable media for performing a corresponding method claim 26, discussed

above, same rationale of rejection is applicable.

Conclusion

13.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

a)   Fotsch, U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0083851 A1 discloses database application

creates a correspondence between a buddy's screen name and one or more phone

number associated with the buddy.

b)   Haims et al., U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0105820 A1, disclose data of databases

may be used to initiate, manage, and conduct communication sessions among diverse

participants in an efficient and effective manner.

c)   Tornabene et al., U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0023132 A1 discloses a prospective

member is added to the current members of the group.

d)   Herrero, U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0078007 A1 discloses a task management

program that allows a user to create contact, project, and task records that are stored in

a database.

e)   Aoki, U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0027805 A1 discloses instant messaging and

enhanced scheduling.

f)   Karstens, U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0071435 A1 discloses expiration criteria as

defined, whereby one or more users of user groups may be considered has having

expired from consideration by instant messaging function.

g)   Appelman et al., U.S. Pub. No. 2005/0198172 A1, disclose facilitating

communications between computer user across a network.

h)   Green et al., U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0172456 A1, disclose enhanced buddy

list interface.

i)   Cahn et al., U.S. 2004/0203381 A1, disclose an electronic contact group is

formed for the immediate establishment of the network or saved for later use.

i)   Donnelly et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,049,776, disclose a resource

management system including a server having a database containing files storing

information on employees, and employee schedules.

14.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Oanh Duong whose telephone number is (571) 272-

3983. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 9:30AM - 6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on (571) 272-4006. The fax phone number for

the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Oanh Duong
April 13, 2006